

ER 60-3759/1

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27 MAY 1960

Mr. Joseph Shipley,
National Committee on Education
in the Public Arts
29 West 46th Street
New York 36, N. Y.

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Dear Mr. Shipley:

Your letter to Mr. Dulles of 17 May has been referred to me for reply.

Since this is a matter which does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Central Intelligence Agency, I will bring your letter to the attention of the appropriate office in the Department of State. However, we sincerely appreciate your interest in the Government's program to present the best of America's performing artists to foreign audiences.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Assistant to the Director

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(EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FILE)

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Joseph T. Shipley

[Redacted]
17 May 1960

STAT

Mr. Allen Dulles
CIA
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

I have had occasion to write you on a few matters that have seemed to me of great concern for us internationally, especially after my year's trip around the world.

Now I wish to add the support of my 43 years as a critic of theatre and dance to the words of John Martin (enclosed herewith), regarding ANTA's choice of the American Ballet Theatre to go to Russia on our "Special Program for Cultural Presentations."

It may well be that recent events will cause the cancellation of all such projects to Russia; if not, surely it is a most unwise project to send this -- or any - ballet group to the Soviet Union. I hope your organization will make this clear to the appropriate bodies.

Sincerely,

*Enclosed clipping from NYTIMES, May 15, 1960, page 9. This was sent down to CA Staff w/basic for forwarding to State.